



FAO Career Panel  
**MILITARY ATTACHÉ**  
COL Mike Simone  
Former Army Attaché Russia





# Agenda

- Mission
- Environment
- How To Prepare
- Summary





# The Missions

JS

- Diplomatic Representative of the United States
- Who you work for:
  - Ambassador - Senior Military Advisor for the Chief of State
  - OSD/JS - DoD Policy and Program Supervisor/Implementer
  - CSA - you are an ARMY Attaché
  - COCOM Commander - TSCG and programs
  - DSCA - If you are also the Sec/Mil Assistance Office
  - DIA - they pay your bills
- Overt Observer - Use your learned expertise/FAO skills
- Reporter of Information - tell what is important and needed
- DV Escort - You never know who's dropping by





# The Environment

- Every Country is Different
  - Major Allies
  - Contentious Hosts
- Every Embassy is Different
  - Big Fish/Small Pond
  - Small Fish/Big Pond
- Every DoD Entity is Different
  - MACOM- ASCC, COCOM,
  - Joint Staff
  - OSD
  - SAO- J4, DSCA
- Daily Activities





# How to Prepare

- Language, Language and more Language
- Self-Study (Country/Region, then study US Foreign Policy Issues)
- Develop a Strategic View
- Learn Army/Joint Doctrine and Changes
- Learn Host-Nation Military
- Build FAO Experience
- Learn “Who’s Who?”
- Stay in shape
- Get the family on board
- JMAS





# Summary

- Attaché positions are Joint billets requiring nominations through HRC and timing
- Attachés wear many hats
- Attachés observe and report
- Extensive preparation required
- Attachés must adapt to any environment
- Attaché work is not a job, it's a lifestyle
- Will be the best job of your FAO career





# Questions?



FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY



U.S.ARMY



You'll never know where you'll end up!

